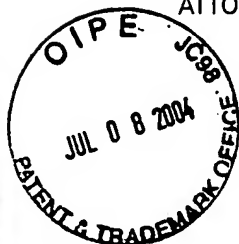


IFW

**Sterne Kessler  
Goldstein Fox**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Robert Greene Sterne  
Edward J. Kessler  
Jorge A. Goldstein  
David K.S. Cornwell  
Robert W. Esmond  
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin  
Michele A. Cimbala  
Michael B. Ray  
Robert E. Sokohl  
Eric K. Steffe  
Michael Q. Lee  
Steven R. Ludwig  
John M. Covert  
Linda E. Alcorn  
Robert C. Millonig  
Lawrence B. Bugasky  
Donald J. Featherstone  
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim  
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.  
Patrick E. Garrett  
Jeffrey T. Helvey  
Heidi L. Kraus  
Albert L. Ferro  
Donald R. Banowit  
Peter A. Jackman  
Teresa U. Medler  
Jeffrey S. Weaver  
Kendrick P. Patterson  
Vincent L. Capuano  
Eldora Ellison Floyd  
Thomas C. Fiala  
Brian J. Del Buono  
Virgil Lee Beaston  
Theodore A. Wood  
Elizabeth J. Haanes

Joseph S. Ostroff  
Frank R. Cottingham  
Christine M. Lhulier  
Rae Lynn Prengaman  
George S. Bardmesser  
Daniel A. Klein  
Jason D. Eisenberg  
Michael D. Specht  
Andrea J. Kamage  
Tracy L. Muller  
LuAnne M. DeSantis  
Ann E. Summerfield  
Tiera S. Coston  
Aric W. Ledford  
Helene C. Carlson  
Timothy A. Doyle  
Jessica L. Parezo  
Gaby L. Longworth

Lori A. Gordon  
Nicole D. Dretar  
Ted J. Ebersole  
Jyoti C. Iyer  
Laura A. Vogel

**Registered Patent Agents\***  
Karen R. Markowitz  
Nancy J. Leith  
Matthew J. Dowd  
Aaron L. Schwartz  
Katrina Yujian Pei Quach  
Bryan L. Skelton  
Robert A. Schwartzman  
Teresa A. Colella  
Jeffrey S. Lundgren  
Victoria S. Rutherford  
Michelle K. Holoubek

Robert H. DeSelms  
Simon J. Elliott  
Julie A. Heider  
Mita Mukherjee  
Scott M. Woodhouse  
Michael G. Penn  
Christopher J. Walsh

**Of Counsel**  
Kenneth C. Bass III  
Evan R. Smith  
Marvin C. Guthrie

\* Admitted only in Maryland  
\* Admitted only in Virginia  
\* Practice Limited to  
Federal Agencies

July 8, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:**  
(202) 772-8831  
**INTERNET ADDRESS:**  
JWEAVER@SKGF.COM

**Art Unit 2632**

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Appl. No. 10/687,690; Filed: October 20, 2003  
For: **Method for the Efficient Reading of a Population of Radio Frequency  
Identification Tags with Unique Identification Numbers Over a Noisy  
Air Channel**  
Inventors: Shanks *et al.*  
Our Ref: 1689.0290001

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Form PTO-1449 (1 sheet citing 4 documents);
3. 4 documents cited in Form PTO-1449 (attached); and
4. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Jeffrey S. Weaver  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 45,608

JSW/LAG/lam  
Enclosures

283097.1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Shanks *et al.*

Appl. No.: 10/687,690

Filed: October 20, 2003

**For: Method for the Efficient Reading  
of a Population of Radio Frequency  
Identification Tags with Unique  
Identification Numbers Over a  
Noisy Air Channel**

Confirmation No.: 2849

Art Unit: 2632

Examiner: *To be assigned*

Atty. Docket: 1689.0290001

**Information Disclosure Statement**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- ☐ 1. Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d). Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.
- ☒ 2. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the date of filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA), OR within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits OR before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No statement or fee is required.
- ☐ 3. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, or Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.
- ☐ a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ c. Attached is our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

- ☐ 4. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Enclosed find our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p); in addition:
- ☐ a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- ☒ 5. The document(s) was/were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. Submission of an English language version of the search report that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is provided in satisfaction of the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance. 1138 OG 37, 38.
- ☐ 6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:
- ☒ 7. Copies of the documents are submitted herewith.
- ☐ 8. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in an IDS that complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)-(c) in Application No.\_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).
- ☐ 9. No copies of U.S. patents and patent application publications cited on the attached Form PTO-1449 are submitted in accordance with 1276 OG 55 because this application was filed after June 30, 2003.

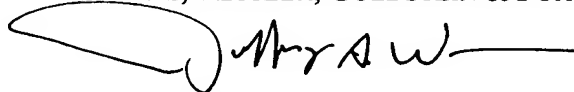
- ☐ 10. It is expected that the examiner will review the prosecution and cited art in the parent application no(s). \*\*\*Par Appl number TE\*\*\* in accordance with MPEP 2001.06(b), and indicate in the next communication from the office that the art cited in the earlier prosecution history has been reviewed in connection with the present application.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

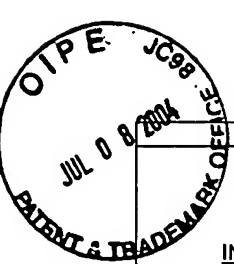
STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Jeffrey S. Weaver  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 45,608

Date: 7 - 8 - 04

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934  
(202) 371-2600



FORM PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

1689.0290001

APPLICATION NO.

10/687,690

FIRST NAMED INVENTOR

Wayne Shanks

FILING DATE

October 20, 2003

ART UNIT

2632

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA1	5,263,124	11/16/1993	Weaver et al.			02/27/1991
	AB1	5,841,770	11/24/1998	Snodgrass et al.			10/07/1996
	AC1	6,532,305	03/11/2003	David G. Hammen			08/05/1999
	AD1						
	AE1						
	AF1						
	AG1						
	AH1						
	AI1						
	AJ1						
	AK1						

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AL1						Yes No
	AM1						Yes No
	AN1						Yes No
	AO1						Yes No
	AP1						Yes No

**OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)**

	AR	1	Copy of International Search Report issued June 7, 2004 for PCT/US03/33043, 5 pages.
	AS	1	
	AT	1	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

**EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.